



By Lisa Mosca

Lisa Mosca is the Communications Officer for the City of Sanford.



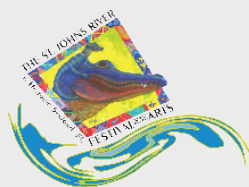
Life In Sanford Is a Nice Walk In The Park

Saturday... in the park... I think it was the Fourth of July

The rock group Chicago may not have been thinking of Sanford back when they recorded their classic hit, but it could be our theme song, especially this year when we celebrate Independence Day on Saturday, the Fourth of July. On any day of the week, you can enjoy a relaxed respite at any of Sanford's beautiful parks, whether it be with the kids at Fort Mellon's Splash Pad, at George W. Touhy Park in historic downtown, or even with your best "tail-waggin" furry friend at the Paw Park.

The City issues over 200 special event permits each year, which means Sanford and our parks provide the perfect venue for a wonderful

variety of activities for kids from 1 to 92. Add the sunshine, the beautiful backdrop of Lake Monroe and Sanford's historic downtown architecture to the mix and you'll want to take part in our special events and perhaps stay awhile.



Beginning May 2 and 3, Sanford's art and cultural scene is enhanced and celebrated by the St. Johns River Festival of the Arts with over 150 fine art and craft artists displaying their works in beautiful downtown. This event draws people from all over the Central Florida region and for good reason. There will be live demonstrations in pottery, torch glass, sculpture, and many other art forms.

Now in its 11th year, the Taste of Sanford is sure to be a scrumptious standout. Sponsored by the Greater Sanford Regional Chamber of Commerce, this event presents the perfect opportunity for residents and visitors to savor a wide assortment of local fare, artisans, crafters, food, and music. Indulge yourself in all that is Sanford, on Saturday, May 9, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Admission is \$5 (kids 12 and under are free). The event will be held at Fort Mellon Park, 600 E. First Street, Downtown Sanford. For more information, contact the Sanford Chamber at 407-322-2212.

As May draws to a close, Sanford will roll out the red,

white and blue to salute and thank the countless veterans who have paid the ultimate price to secure our freedom. The City sponsors a Memorial Day Parade and Remembrance Ceremony on Monday, May 25, 10:00 a.m. to noon on First Street in Downtown Sanford at Veterans Memorial Park. Located at 110 E. Seminole Boulevard, veteran-engraved markers are located throughout the park. If you are interested in purchasing a marker to be installed as part of the registry of remembrances, please contact the Public Works Department at 407-688-5080.

Planning has begun to bring you another year of incredible fireworks at the Star Spangled Sanford celebration, one of the city's showcase events. This perennial event will be held on Saturday, July 4, 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Fort Mellon Park and the RiverWalk. Enjoy live entertainment, great food, drinks, the Fort Mellon Park Splash Pad, kids' activities, and a most spectacular fireworks display at sunset over the magnificent and majestic Lake Monroe.

Hosting all these special events takes a lot of manpower, which is why the City's Recreation Department utilizes over 22,880 volunteer hours – the equivalent of more than 11 full-time employees. Our volunteers are extremely valuable and represent an approximate cost savings of \$200,000 to the City.

Sanford is a city on the rise, primed for its residents and visitors. There's so much to see and do all throughout the year. For a complete listing of city events, visit SanfordFL.gov.



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